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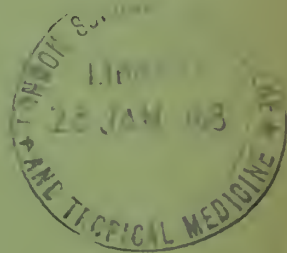
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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

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1963

Annual Report  
of the  
Medical Officer  
of Health



G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D. (Lond.), B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

WITH WHICH IS INCLUDED THE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
AND HOUSING MANAGER

C. J. CLARK, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

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HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1963

G. L. BROCKLEHURST, M.D. (Lond.) B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor Mrs. G. E. Fortune, J.P.

Committees concerned with matters of Public Health

Public Health and Housing Committee

(Public Health Committee and Housing  
Committee amalgamated in 1953)

Highways Committee

Responsible for public cleansing,  
refuse disposal and sewage disposal.

MEMBERS OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

Councillor J. Conyon (Chairman)  
Councillor Mrs. P. A. Sandercock (Vice-Chairman)  
The Chairman of the Council  
Councillor H. Allchin  
" N. D. Atkin  
" I. Fowler  
" W. H. Curzon-Howe  
" K. P. Meehan  
" R. V. Rice  
" L. A. Rook  
" C. E. Taber

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF - 1963

Medical Officer of Health  
and Principal Medical  
Officer, Area No. 2 K.C.C.

G. L. Brocklehurst, M.D. (Lond.)  
B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

and at:

34 Grosvenor Place, Margate.  
'phone Thanet 22201

Deputy Medical Officer of  
Health - Part-time

Dorothy N. Ironside, M.B., C.H.B.,  
D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector C. J. Clark, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary  
Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of the Royal  
Society of Health.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

Duties:

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector.  
Housing Management.  
Shops Act Administration.  
Public Lighting and Petroleum.

Additional Public Health Inspector W. F. Weller, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary  
Inspector's Examination Joint Board.

Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of the Royal  
Society of Health.

Smoke Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Society of Health.

Duties:

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector.  
Shops Act Administration.  
Housing Management.  
Public Lighting and Petroleum.

Additional Public Health Inspector R. A. Maddock, M.A.P.H.I.

Certificate of the Public Health Inspector's Education Board.

Meat and Other Foods Inspector's Certificate of the Royal  
Society of Health.

Duties:

Statutory duties of a Public Health Inspector.  
Shops Act Administration.  
Housing Management.

Clerical Staff

Miss H. F. Wilson  
Miss V. C. Harris

General Assistants and Rodent Operators:

R. R. H. Watson  
J. T. McDonnell

KENT COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES STAFF - 1963

in the Herne Bay Urban District

Health Visitor, School Nurses and Infant Life Protection Officers:	Miss D. A. Tremble, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Miss O. Revill, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Tuberculosis Health Visitor:	Miss M. Brangan, S.R.N., S.C.M., Cert. R.S.I., H.V.
Midwives:	Mrs. Shipton, S.R.N., S.C.M. Miss Cursons, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Home Nurses:	Mrs. D. M. Thompson, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N., R.F.N. Miss O. Sanders, S.R.N., S.F.N., Q.N. Miss C. Dory, S.R.N. Miss Haigh, S.R.N.
Domestic Help Area Organizer:	Mrs. A. Kingston.
District Officer:	H. T. Suckling.
Assistant District Officer:	D. H. Bartlett.
Registrar of Births and Deaths:	Mrs. M. G. Oakley.
School Enquiry Officer:	K. W. Ford.
<u>Other Staff: South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board</u>	
Chest Physician and Adviser on After-care of Tuberculosis:	Owen Clarke, M.D., M.R.C.P.



Council Offices,  
Herne Bay.

August 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Herne Bay Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of Herne Bay for the year of 1963, with which is included the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

The vital statistics of the district show an increase in the population (as estimated by the Registrar General) of some 680. An increase in the birth rate is shown, 19.23 in 1963 as compared with 12.18 in 1962. The total number of live births increased from 238 in 1962 to 272 in 1963. The death rate decreased from 14.84 in 1962 to 12.55 in 1963. The Infant Death Rate was 33.09 compared with 20.9 for England and Wales. 12.50% of the total live births were illegitimate.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There was little infectious disease. The number of cases of measles is higher than last year but this is of minor significance.

#### MALIGNANT DISEASE

Deaths from Cancer of the Lung were slightly less than last year. The lungs are now the commonest organs of the body to be affected. Evidence of the association of cigarette smoking and Lung Cancer continues to accumulate.

#### HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICE

The Health Services provided in the town are set out in the report in some detail; they are available to all the inhabitants, and they are adequate.



Mention should again be made of much good work carried out in the district during the year by members of the staff of the Health Services operated by the County Council, with particular reference to the many and varied duties performed by Health Visitors, Midwives, Home Nurses, Children's Welfare Officers, District Officers, Domestic and Home Helpers, etc., and also the various voluntary organisations in the town such as the W.V.S., Old People's Welfare Committee; the British Red Cross Society, the St. John Ambulance Association and others. These workers do much for the comfort and well-being of the inhabitants of the town, and their work is greatly appreciated by the people concerned.

#### APPRECIATION

In conclusion, I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee my appreciation for their support and encouragement during the year.

My thanks are also due to all members of the Health Department for the loyal and efficient way in which they have carried out their duties; to my colleagues in other Departments; to the Staffs of the Kent County Health Services and the Regional Hospital Board Services covering Herne Bay District, and to the Medical Practitioners practising in the area, for their willing co-operation and assistance at all times in the public health work of our town.

I have the honour to be Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

G. L. Brocklehurst

Medical Officer of Health and Principal  
Medical Officer, Area No. 2, Kent County Council.

## HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (including water)	8,889 acres
Population, 1963 (Registrar General - Mid Year)	21,780
* Rateable Value (1st April, 1964)	£ 852,635
* Estimated sum represented by the ld. rate	£ 3,400
* Note: Figures shown are for 1964.	

### VITAL STATISTICS

(a) <u>Mothers and Infants</u>				<u>Herne Bay</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
<u>Live Births</u>					
Number	M. 133	F. 139	Total	272	-
Rate per 1000 population				12.48	-
*Adjusted Birth Rate				19.23	18.2
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births):				12.50%	-
Stillbirths:					
Number	M. 1	F. 1	Total	2	-
Rate per 1000 total live and still births				8.98	17.3
Total live and still births				274	-
<u>Infant Deaths</u> (deaths under one year)				9	-
Infant Mortality Rates					
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births				33.09	20.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births				33.61	-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births				29.41	-

	<u>Herne Bay</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	33.09	14.7
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	33.09	-
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)	40.15	29.9
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)		
Number of deaths	NIL	-
Rate per 1000 total live and still births	00.0	-

(b) Deaths - General Population

Male	238		
Female	298		
Total		536	-
Deaths per 1000 of the estimated population mid 1963		24.61	-
*Adjusted death rate		12.55	12.2

\*The figures shown as "adjusted Birth Rate" and "adjusted Death Rate" have been corrected by comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HERNE BAY URBAN DISTRICT  
DURING 1963

CAUSES	Males	Females
	238	298
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitis disease	-	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	6
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	15	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	10
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	21	21
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	4
16. Diabetes	4	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	37	59
18. Coronary disease, angina	48	30
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	9
20. Other heart disease	29	68
21. Other circulatory diseases	22	23
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	9	15
24. Bronchitis	19	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis, and nephrosis	2	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	19
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	3
34. All other accidents	1	3
35. Suicide	1	3



## SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Herne Bay is a seaside holiday resort on the northern coast of Kent, at the mouth of the Thames Estuary. Bounded on the north side by the north sea, it is almost surrounded by the villages of the Bridge/Blean Rural District. It lies between the Whitstable Urban District on the west, and Birchington, in the Borough of Margate, on the east; to the south, and approximately eight miles distant, is the City of Canterbury.

The town is a holiday resort, and there is considerable seasonal employment in catering for the needs of visitors during the summer months. The population figure is then almost double that of the winter residential population.

There is a large residential area in the Urban District and, as the town is within easy reach of London, many of the inhabitants travel each day to their employment in the City. The town has grown appreciably during recent years. This is reflected in the Registrar General's mid-year estimate. The electrification of the railway system has attracted many more residents and visitors to the town, which continues to expand.

In addition to the town's education and utility services, (schools, electricity, gas, water, fire, transport, local government, and postal services) there are a number of professional and commercial establishments and light industrial undertakings which provide employment. Agricultural employment is available in the rural area. It is the Council's policy to attract suitable light industries to the town to establish a more balanced community. This has met with some success.

The Kent County Council is the Education Authority for the Urban District. There are four County Primary and Junior Schools, and one County Modern School. In addition, there are independent fee-paying schools for boarders and day scholars. Herne Bay has two large convalescent homes for adults and several smaller ones for children. There are holiday homes and homes for old people and the chronic sick. The Cripplecrafft Home provides occupation and welfare for the disabled. Herne Bay Memorial Hospital and Herne Hospital employ a number of nursing and domestic workers.

## Meteorology

The Council maintain a meteorological station on the Sea Front and daily weather readings are transmitted to the Air Ministry. The following are the readings for the year 1963:

Period	Sunshine Hours:	Rainfall Inches:
1963	1439.9	21.94
Monthly Mean:	119.9	1.83
Daily Average:	3.99	0.061

## LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Laboratory Facilities

All pathological and bacteriological work for the Urban District is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Preston Hall, Maidstone, free of charge. This is one of a chain of laboratories established by the Ministry of Health throughout the country.

### Services provided by the Kent County Council under the N.H.S.A.

### Health Visitors, School Nurse and Infant Life Protection Officer.

The health visiting, school nursing and infant life protection services are carried out by the County Council, who provide the staff. During 1963 these duties were performed by Miss D. A. Tremble and Miss O. Revill.

Tuberculosis health visiting is carried out by Miss M. Brangan.

### Nursing in the Home

The Kent County Council provide a free Nursing Service and, apart from cases of emergency and accident, a patient may obtain the services of a home nurse if requested by the medical practitioner in attendance. There are 4 such nurses in this district.

### Domicilliary Midwifery

A comprehensive service is available, and two midwives are employed.

### Domestic Help Service

Domestic help is obtainable for the sick, aged, and infirm, and in cases of urgent need; the scheme is operated from the Kent County Council's clinic, in King's Road, under the supervision of the Area Organiser, Mrs. A. Kingston.

### District Office

The Kent County Council has established a District Office at Whitstable, where enquiries can be made with regard to the County Council Health Services.

### National Health Service Act, 1946

### Maintenance of the Family as an Effective Unit

The Ministry have approved the modification of the County's existing proposals, by inclusion of the following:

"The Council intends to introduce and, from time to time, develop arrangements designed to ensure the maintenance of the family as an effective unit including, in the interests of the children, the rehabilitation and training at recuperative centres of the parents, particularly the mother, and the use as necessary of the services provided under Section 22 of the Act, relating to the expectant and nursing mother, and children below school age, Section 24 relating to health visiting, and Section 29 to the domestic help, family help and child help services."

### Treatment Centres and Clinics

Clinics continued to be held regularly throughout the year at the Kent County Council's Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay (Tuberculosis Dispensary in Cavendish Road). The following table gives the days and times when the various sessions are held:



CLINICS	SESSIONS	
	Days	Times
<u>Maternity Clinics:</u> Ante-Natal Clinics	Fridays	2 - 4 p.m.
<u>Child Welfare Clinic:</u> Vaccination against Smallpox by appointment at this clinic. The Health Centre, King's Road.	Mondays and Thursdays	Afternoons
Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation Clinic	Held monthly by the Medical Officer of Health, usually on middle Tuesday in month.	
B.C.C. Vaccination Clinic	Held monthly by Chest Physician at times arranged with Tuberculosis Health Visitor.	
Poliomyelitis Vaccination Clinic	Held by arrangements made by Medical Officer of Health, County Hall, Maidstone.	

### School Health Service

Medical and dental treatment is provided by the County Council as follows:

Minor Ailments Clinic	Days and Attendance of Medical Officer.
The Health Centre	Every second and fourth Thursday afternoon at 4.30 p.m.

### Specialist School Clinics

Attendance at these County Council Clinics is by appointment only, application for treatment being made to the County Medical Officer.

Clinics	Address of Centres
Child Guidance Ophthalmic	51 London Road, Canterbury. The Health Centre, King's Road, and Kent & Canterbury Hospital.
Orthopaedic Speech Defects	Kent & Canterbury Hospital, County Clinics, 94 Whitstable Road, Canterbury.

### Dental Clinic

Patients receive attention at the Dental Clinic, Health Centre, King's Road, Herne Bay, by appointment on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

### Clinic Services provided through the Hospital Service

The following clinics are administered by the Hospital Management Committee of the Regional Hospital Board:

CLINICS	SESSIONS	
	Days	Times
<u>Tuberculosis Dispensaries:</u> K.C.C. Chest Clinic, Cavendish Road, Herne Bay.	Tuesdays	10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Queen Victoria Hospital, Herne Bay, Refills	Tuesdays	1.45 p.m.
<u>Venereal Diseases Clinic</u> Kent & Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.	(Women) Tuesdays	2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.
	(Men) Tuesdays	3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

## Hospitals

The hospitals serving the Urban District are operated by the Local Hospital Management Committee, which is under the control of the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board.

The hospitals serving the Urban District are:

### Isolation Hospital

Haine Isolation Hospital, Ramsgate.

### General Hospitals

Kent and Canterbury Hospital, Canterbury.

Herne Bay Memorial Hospital.

Whitstable and Tankerton Hospital.

Herne Hospital.

Nunnery Fields Hospital, Canterbury (for old people).

### Development of Hospital Services

A plan for the development of hospital services, reported by the Clerk of the Council in 1960, was referred to in some detail in my Annual Report of 1960 and 1961.

### Smallpox Hospital Accommodation

The Regional Hospital Board have a scheme in operation whereby smallpox patients may be admitted to the River Hospital, (Long Reach) Dartford, Kent. No cases were notified during the year under review.

### Registration of Nursing Homes

#### Sections 187 to 194, Public Health Act, 1936

Two nursing homes were operating during 1963, and the following table gives particulars of the number of beds available.

Year 1963	No. of Homes	No. of beds provided for		Totals
		Maternity	Others	
Homes on register during the year	2	-	29	29

## Convalescent Homes and Holiday Homes, etc.

There are several Holiday and Convalescent Homes in the Urban District, with accommodation for some 400 patients.

"Batesholme" Grand Drive, accommodates 20 children of both sexes between the ages of 3 and 15 years, under the care of the K.C.C. "Grosvenor House", Victoria Park accommodates 22 children between the ages of 3 and 15 years, and "Beaumont House", Beaumont Street, has accommodation for 10 children of the same ages.

## National Assistance Act, 1948

Six burials were arranged under Section 50 of the above Act, during 1963.

## Public Mortuary

The Council own an up-to-date mortuary comprising a post-mortem room with refrigeration facilities for four bodies, also a panelled chapel and viewing room, which has independent access. Records are kept of all bodies admitted, and of post-mortem examinations. Mr. Jempson continues to maintain an attractive garden at the mortuary entrance. This he does as a voluntary effort in his retirement.

The Whitstable Urban District Council, being without a satisfactory mortuary, approached the Herne Bay Council with a view to sharing the use of the mortuary belonging to the Herne Bay Council. This was agreed and has continued subject to financial arrangements on a population basis. The arrangement operated from 1st April, 1961.

During the year, 88 bodies were admitted from Herne Bay and 37 from Whitstable. Upon all of these, post-mortem examinations were held.

## Schools

There are 2 independent Boarding Schools and 2 independent Day Schools in the Urban District, with accommodation for some 493 children. One of the independent Day Schools closed down during 1963.

In addition there are 4 County Primary and Junior Schools and 1 County Modern School. There are 2,273 children attending schools in Herne Bay.

## Food Poisoning

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred throughout the year.



# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following is a summary of the incidence of infectious diseases during the year.

DISEASES	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total deaths
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Measles	374	-	-
Sonne Dysentery	-	-	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	22	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	5	3	-
TOTALS	401	3	-

The following table gives the age incidence of the various notifiable diseases which occurred during the year.

DISEASES	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 and over
Measles	10	58	47	57	61	123	16	-	1	1	-
Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	-	1	1	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	16

Compared with the total number of infectious diseases notified during 1962, this year's figure has notably increased (401 as against 7).

Chicken pox is no longer required to be notified as an infectious disease.

The following table shows the incidence of measles for the last five years:

YEAR	Children 1 - 5 years	Children 5 - 15 years.	Adults	TOTALS
1959	135	150	1	286
1960	1	1	-	2
1961	65	70	6	141
1962	2	1	-	3
1963	233	139	2	374

### Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Certain infectious diseases are required to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health, when they occur. Anthrax has been added to the number of notifiable diseases, and chicken pox has been deleted, because, in 1960, it ceased to be notifiable at Herne Bay.

### T U B E R C U L O S I S

New cases and mortality during the year 1963

Age Periods	NEW CASES:				DEATHS:			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Fulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-

Inward and Outward Transfers Recoveries etc.	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Inward transfers from other areas	4	4	-	1
Outward transfers to other areas	-	-	-	1
Restored to register on return to district	-	-	-	-
Reported to be "Recovered"	2	4	-	1
Removed from the register upon declining medical treatment	-	-	-	-

The number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1963 was:

Type of Case:	Male	Female	TOTALS
Pulmonary	92	54	146
Non-pulmonary	16	21	37
TOTALS	108	75	183

#### Prevention of Tuberculosis: Care and After-Care

A scheme is operated jointly by the Kent County Council and the Kent Council of Social Service for the provision of care and after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis. Through this scheme arrangements are made, where necessary, for assistance to be rendered in various ways, viz., the provision of shelters; extra meat and milk, the provision of beds, bedding and clothing.

Home visiting is carried out by the Tuberculosis Health visitor for the area, who gives suitable advice to the patients.



Where there is need, help is given in housing problems, and assisting with removal expenses; the admission of patients to holiday homes is arranged; in the case of employment, endeavours are made to find suitable posts for patients who are fit for work; and materials are provided for recreational therapy.

### Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925

#### Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 172

No action was taken during the year under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination, 1963

The following table shows the number of injections given in the various priority groups during the year ended 31st December, 1963.

YEAR	2 Injections (SALK)	3rd Dose (SALK & ORAL)	4th Dose (SALK & ORAL)	3 ORALS (Complete course)
1963	-		-	15
1962	-	4	-	144
1961	-	4	-	16
1957 - 1960	-	6	-	14
1943 - 1956	-	3	-	15
1933 - 1942	-	3	-	19
Others	-	5	-	12

### Immunisation and Vaccination

Set out below in the charts are the diphtheria immunisation, whooping cough immunisation and smallpox vaccination figures for 1963.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)		Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	Primary	Reinforcing	Primary
1963	103	Nil	103
1962	111	1	110
1961	7	77	7
1960	3	25	3
1959	Nil	17	Nil
1954 - 58	3	110	2
1949 - 54	2	2	2
TOTAL	229	232	227

### Smallpox Vaccination

In view of the amendment to the County Council's Proposals approved as from the 1st January, 1963, the following is the only information now available.

Primary Vaccination 1 year	Re-vaccination School age but under 8 years
33	3

### Home Safety Act, 1961

The Public Health and Housing Committee undertook the responsibility for supervising the exercise of home safety precautions under the above Act.

Consideration has been given to the employment of a part-time Home Safety Organiser - possibly a person already employed in that capacity by a neighbouring authority.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occ. Pros- ecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Author- ities.	7	24		
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	81		-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	12			
TOTAL	100	24	-	-

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars	Number of cases.in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecution were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7.)					
(a)					
Insufficient (b)	-	-	-	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act. (not including offences relating to outwork.	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	(1)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises. (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cutions (7)
Wearing } Making } etc., } Cleaning } and } washing Artificial Flowers		16	-	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL		17	-	-	-	-	-





R E P O R T

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

HOUSING MANAGER

C. J. Clark, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.





Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Herne Bay,  
Kent.

August, 1964.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Herne Bay Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year 1963, the 27th year of my service at Herne Bay.

I have continued my practice of recent years by indicating whether an item is new, revised, or repeated.

It is hoped that the report will be of interest to members as a record of the work of the Department during 1963. It also provides some background information which may be helpful, especially to new members of the Council.

I have rearranged the presentation of my report in three main sections:-

Environmental Health Services  
Housing Management  
Other Services, etc. administered by the Public  
Health and Housing Department.

The first section is concerned with the health functions of the Department; the second section with the duties of housing management; the third section with the control of public conveniences and the miscellaneous duties of the Department.

I have not reported upon the administration of the Shops Act, except the aspect which concerns the health and comfort of shop workers.

Having attained a population above 20,000 the Herne Bay Urban District Council is now the statutory authority to administer the Shops Act. Previously the Act was administered under delegated authority, the District Council acting as agent for the Kent County Council.

I have not in the report made any reference to the duties of the Department in connection with street lighting, although members will know that much progress has been made with the improvement of street lighting at Herne Bay.

Inevitably, a major part of this report is devoted to housing. The Department has the considerable satisfaction of dealing with housing in all its aspects. Repair, closure, or demolition of unfit houses; improvement of houses, sound but lacking in modern amenities; the rehousing of tenants from condemned properties; and the management of houses and flats owned by the Council. It will be noted that the clearance of unfit houses, which commenced in 1955, is now in sight of completion. The Council has undertaken to represent by 1966 the remaining houses suitable for clearance area procedure. Individual unfit houses will continue to be dealt with in future years as they come to light.

Redevelopment of the King's Road Clearance Area is now certain to commence in 1964, with work upon the construction of the town's first block of 7 storey flats.

The provision of flats with resident warden combines housing with welfare. It is intended for those in advanced old age who may need a little assistance to help them retain their independence. Many excellent arrangements of the kind, made by other local authorities, have been inspected by members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

A measure of compulsion in the improvement of houses lacking essential amenities is now certain. It is also certain that it will be followed by considerable increase in the number of houses which will be improved with the aid of grants in the coming years.

I have dealt with the housing management section of my report in a comprehensive way. I have included information upon the many considerations which affect the applicants for housing accommodation, and the tenants of Council houses. I have again mentioned the need for playing fields, and recreation facilities on the Council's housing estates.

The tenant's car has become a problem. I have referred in my report to the action taken to provide garages and hard standings.

The number of applicants upon the "waiting list" does not diminish. We might perhaps take some satisfaction from the fact that it does not increase! The figures presented show that the "waiting list" has numbered 400 or thereabout for the past 5 years.

In the same period, 240 applicants have been housed by the Council. Obviously, they have been replaced by approximately the same number of new applicants.

It is pleasing to know that more houses built by private enterprise are now being purchased by the Council's tenants. These release Council houses for those who are less fortunate, and will not be able to purchase their own homes.

Before concluding I must mention briefly some other aspects of my report.

It will be noted that the public water supply is no longer derived from the deep well at Ford. The sewerage system of the town is undergoing improvement to be followed by enlargement of the sewage works.

Turnstiles, disliked for so long by the ladies, are to be removed from public conveniences.


The caravan holiday is as popular as ever. At a census taken in August there were 1,683 caravans upon the 13 sites in the urban area. At a conservative estimate these would accommodate between 5,000 and 6,000 campers.

Finally, I must refer to the work of the Department in the important field of food hygiene. The regular routine inspection of food premises is not neglected or overshadowed by preoccupation with other duties. The additional Public Health Inspector devotes most of his time to food hygiene. The results of this work are shown in the report.

At Herne Bay there is an atmosphere of expansion; the town is growing, and so is the work of your staff.

I am pleased to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the Chairman and members of the Public Health and Housing Committee; from my staff, and from my colleagues in other Departments.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

  
Senior Public Health Inspector  
and Housing Manager.



## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

### WATER (Revised)

The public water supply is provided by the Canterbury and District Water Company and is consistently pure. Regular and frequent samples show that it is of satisfactory organic quality and bacteriological standard.

Formerly the local supply was distributed by the Herne Bay Waterworks Company from a deep well at Ford. That Company has ceased to exist and its functions have been taken over by the Canterbury and District Water Company.

For many years the County Analyst commented upon the increasing salinity of the Ford supply. This salinity had risen 50% since 1948, and the supply was in danger of becoming unpalatable. The local supply is now obtained entirely from the Canterbury area. The water is not saline, and is slightly less hard.

The well at Ford remains in commission for emergency use only.

### Examination of Water Samples (Revised)

Public Supply Samples of the public water supply were taken during the year and the following are the results of examination by the Pathologist and the County Analyst.

<u>Bacteriological</u>		All
<u>Examination</u>	: 5 samples taken	satisfactory

<u>Chemical</u>		All
<u>Analysis</u>	: 5 samples taken	satisfactory

These samples were taken after the supply had been chlorinated.

### Private Wells and Springs (Revised)

3 samples of untreated water were taken from private wells, etc., and submitted for examination. The samples proved to be satisfactory.

Number of Dwelling Houses supplied from the Public Water Mains  
(Revised)

There are 8,675 houses and flats in the Urban District and all but 10 are supplied from the public water mains. We are informed that during 1963, 3,767 yards of new water main were laid by the local Company to supply new houses and bungalows.

Kent Water Supply (Repeated)

Members may be interested in the following extracts of the 4th Annual Report of the Kent Joint Advisory Water Committee. The Chairman directs attention to the fact that:-

"Kent is not a County possessing limitless supplies of water. Water has now become a commodity concerning which the greatest care and discrimination must be exercised by all those responsible for its conservation and use."

The Chairman also states that:-

"In planning the future development of Kent, unless the necessary water supply position involved in such development is seriously considered a position could arise in which development might have to be checked or abandoned.

"In Kent comprehensive re-grouping of water undertakings has already been achieved by the Kent Water Act, 1955, which reduced the number of statutory water undertakings from 35 to 14, excluding all parts of the County served by the East Surrey Water Company and the Metropolitan Water Board."

Radioactivity

"Samples of water continue to be tested for radioactivity under the arrangements made with the County Council. In addition, some of the water undertakings have made independent arrangements. In all cases the results of the tests are made known to the Committee.

"Water undertakings have been advised of the desirability of submitting samples of raw water for analysis in addition to samples of treated water going into supply."

"The tests hitherto undertaken have been confined to Strontium 90 and Caesium 137. The Government has put in hand special measures to test water supplies for Iodine 131. The Committee is satisfied that, for the present, no general arrangements need to be made in the County for Iodine 131 tests.

"The Committee desires to emphasise once again that there is no evidence whatsoever of the County's water supplies being in any danger at present from radioactive contamination."

#### Fluoridation of Water Supplies (New)

Circulars have been received from the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government concerning the fluoridation of water supplies. The subject has been discussed by the members of the Council at Canterbury and at Herne Bay. Both Councils have decided against the introduction of fluoride into the public water supply at the present time. At Canterbury consideration of the matter was postponed for 12 months. I am informed that in Kent fluoride is naturally present in most water to the extent of one-twentieth of one part per million.

#### DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SANITARY CONVENIENCES (Revised)

The Council's modernised sewage purification works at May Street receives sewage mainly from Beltinge, Herne, and Broomfield. Sewage from the remainder of the Urban District passes by gravity or is pumped, to a disintegrator station at the East Cliff and thence to the sea.

Work is in progress upon the improvement of the sewerage system by the construction of a new rising main from Eddington to May Street, and by the installation of modern equipment at three Ejector stations from which sewage is lifted to a higher level before gravitating to May Street. This is to be followed by enlargement of the sewage works itself to cope with the expansion of the town.

There are now 116 properties drained to cesspools which are emptied from time to time by the Council. There are also 23 properties served by pail closets.



At 96 occupied dwellings choked drains were cleansed by informal means. Most of the choked drains were cleared by the Public Health Department and a charge made to cover the cost. This has been done for many years and it is interesting to note that the practice has been recognised by the inclusion of a section in the new Public Health Act, 1961, authorising local Councils to cleanse or repair drains upon request by an owner and recover the cost of so doing. Cleansing of choked drains is a service which is much appreciated by the public because it enables prompt attention to be given to a matter which should be dealt with promptly. The alternative is the slow method of serving notices upon owners, or occupiers, with inevitable delay. There is also some difficulty in getting a builder to deal promptly with choked drains, especially at the week-end when the service is often required.

At 45 properties drains were repaired or relaid by informal action.

A private sewer was repaired and improved by the Council after service of notices under the Public Health Act. The cost of the work was subsequently apportioned and recovered from the owners of two dwelling houses which drained into the sewer.

Tests are carried out upon house drainage systems at the request of their owners and upon payment of the Council's fees. The charge varies from two to three guineas per test according to the size of the drainage system.

### RIVERS AND STREAMS (Revised)

The River Wantsum forms the south-eastern boundary of the district before it passes to the sea, and is free from pollution.

The brook at Hampton is sprayed in summer to prevent it becoming a breeding place for insect pests. This treatment is also applied at many ditches throughout the district.

Plenty Brook at Eddington has been troublesome from time to time. Nuisance has occasionally arisen from a storm water overflow which discharges into the water course from the sewerage system. The improvements to the sewerage system referred to under a previous paragraph renders this less likely to occur in future.

PUBLIC CLEANSING  
(Revised)

This service is administered by the Council's Surveyor. Domestic refuse is collected weekly from dwelling houses and conveyed by covered moving-floor vehicles to the refuse tip at Broomfield. Since 1952 the tip has been enlarged by 40 acres following a local enquiry. An improved system of controlled tipping is now operated.

Collection of refuse from Hotels, Restaurants, and some trade premises is carried out more frequently when required during the holiday season.

The Health Department is informed of any defective or unsatisfactory dustbins. During 1963 dustbins were supplied by owners and occupiers upon informal intimation that such were required. In no case was it necessary to serve a statutory notice to require provision of a dustbin.

A Horsfall Incinerator was installed at the Broomfield Refuse Tip in 1961 at a cost of £210. It is used primarily for burning sanitary towels removed from the Council's Public Conveniences. These are collected and taken to the tip daily by staff of the Public Health Department.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA  
(Revised)

Total number of visits of all kinds made during the year .....	6,937
Total number of interviews at the office with property owners, housing applicants, tenants, traders and others .....	2,190
Number of notices served - Statutory	15
Housing Act	10
Public Health Act	5
"       "       "       "       - Informal	603

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS  
(Revised)

To Dwelling Houses :

For Public Health purposes and housing repairs .....	578
To inspect housing applicant's accommodation .....	335
" " houses for improvement grants .....	410
" " " " dirty conditions .....	37
" " Council houses for cleanliness, etc. ....	503
For sewerage and drainage .....	256
" testing drains .....	4
" provision of dustbins .....	93
" infectious disease and food poisoning enquiries .....	2
" disinfection of bedding and premises .....	7
" water supply .....	17
To inspect schools and nursing homes .....	6
" refuse tip for fly control, etc. ....	108

To Food Premises :

For enforcement of Food Hygiene Regulations, etc. ....	578
" sampling of milk, ice cream, etc. ....	61

For Other Purposes :

For destruction of rats and mice (and survey) .....	2,041
" noise abatement .....	14
" supervision of caravan sites .....	119
" " " public conveniences .....	722
" " " mortuary .....	132
To arrange National Assistance Act burials .....	16
" factories and outworkers premises .....	24
" pet shops and animal boarding establishments .....	6
" secure smoke abatement .....	14
For destruction of insect pests .....	160
" nuisances at ditches and watercourses .....	9
" abatement of nuisances from the keeping of animals ...	10
" " " generally .....	56
" removal of accumulations from vacant land, etc. ....	43
" miscellaneous purposes .....	70
" Shops Act administration .....	71
" public lighting and petroleum .....	439
" Oil Heater Regulations .....	4
Interviews at office : Public Health, etc. ....	907
Housing applicants & tenants .....	1,128
Improvement grants .....	140
Rent Act .....	15



SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED AND IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED :  
(Revised)

Unfit houses demolished (some orders made in previous years .....	7
" " closed for human habitation .....	7
" " and subsequently made fit .....	4
Overcrowding abated at houses .....	11
Houses repaired and made fit for habitation .....	37
(Six of these houses were made fit after service of statutory notices. In one instance the work was carried out by the Council in default of the owner.)	
Houses at which flooding in cellars has been remedied ....	3
" improved with the aid of improvement grants .....	34
Bedding disinfected or destroyed .....	10
Dirty conditions improved at dwelling houses .....	2
Drains tested .....	4
Choked drains cleansed by informal action .....	96
Defective drainage systems and sewers, repaired or relaid .....	45
Accumulations removed .....	11
Nuisances abated (smoke 1, noise 7, animals 1, coal gas 1, others 2) .....	12
Pet animal complaint remedied .....	1
Unsatisfactory holiday accommodation improved as a result of complaints .....	2
Sanitary accommodation at licensed premises considerably improved .....	1
Caravans moved from unlicensed sites .....	1

Disinfestation

Premises disinfested .....	27
Premises treated for destruction of rats and mice .....	269
Wasp nests destroyed at premises .....	72

Shops Act

Trading on day of weekly half holiday .....	2
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Note

The above schedule of works does not include works carried out at licensed caravan sites to implement model standards, nor does it include works carried out at dwelling houses with the aid of improvement grants.

FOOD PREMISES - Improvements and contraventions of Food Hygiene Regulations remedied by informal action.  
(Revised)

Food Premises at which the following were required for use by staff:-

Accommodation for outdoor clothing .....	1
Nail brushes .....	6
First Aid materials .....	3
water closets provided .....	2
Water closets improved .....	1
Wash basins .....	2
Hot water supply .....	1

Food Premises at which the following structural works, cleansing or appliances were required:-

New floors constructed .....	1
Sinks provided .....	3
Hot water provided at sinks .....	1
General repair and redecoration after cleansing .....	4
Butchers cutting blocks renewed .....	1

Note

The amount of work required to be done at food premises is less than in previous years. This reflects the extent to which works have been carried out to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 since they came into operation.

Food and Drugs Act - Offences dealt with informally

Grease in bread .....	1
Mouldy steak pie .....	1
Discontinuance of sale of meat at premises with inadequate facilities .....	1
Smoking whilst handling "open" food .....	1



## SMOKE CONTROL

(Repeated)

Herne Bay is a residential and holiday resort with little industry so it is free from the problems of industrial smoke, with the exception of the occasional emission from laundry chimneys. At one of these an oil burning plant was installed in 1961. This has been much appreciated by the occupiers of nearby cottages who had been troubled for many years by soot and ash deposit.

Domestic smoke is a problem in every town and, even at industrial towns, it is a major cause of atmospheric pollution.

It is important, therefore, to prevent domestic smoke by the burning of smokeless fuels, and by the use of solid fuel appliances of a design which is approved by the Coal Utilisation Council.

The Council adopted the Model Smoke Prevention byelaw, which came into force in this district early in 1960.

The byelaw requires at all new buildings:-

- (a) only such appliances for heating and cooking as are suitably designed for burning gas, electricity, coke or anthracite,

or

- (b) appliances which are approved by the Coal Utilisation Council - these will efficiently burn solid fuel with a minimum of smoke emission.

It is well to remember that smoke emission is not only bad in itself, because it pollutes the atmosphere and deposits soot, but it is a measure of the extent to which coal is wastefully consumed.

Smoke is formed of unconsumed particles of carbon, which should have been raised to ignition temperature to release heat instead of being belched into the atmosphere to waste and pollute.

Adoption of the Smoke Prevention byelaw gives practical support to the movement to secure clean air. It will ensure that from the date the byelaw had effect, all new buildings at Herne Bay are equipped with smokeless, or relatively smokeless, means of cooking and heating.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, is a great help in dealing with the smoke problem. The Act has four main purposes:-

- (a) To prohibit the emission of dark smoke from chimneys, railway engines, and vessels, subject to certain qualifications.
- (b) To prohibit the installation of new industrial furnaces unless they are capable, so far as practicable, of being operated without emitting smoke.
- (c) To require that the emission of grit and dust from existing industrial furnaces shall be minimised, and that new industrial furnaces shall be provided with grit arresting equipment.
- (d) To empower Local Authorities by order, subject to approval by the Ministry concerned, to declare "smoke control areas" in which the emission of smoke from chimneys will constitute an offence.

The Council is a member of the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council. The purpose of the Advisory Council is to encourage smoke abatement in London and the Home Counties.

#### SHOPS AND OFFICES (Revised)

71 visits were made to shop premises concerning the Shops Act, 1950, generally; most of these were inspected as to requirements relating to the health and comfort of shop workers. The few defects and deficiencies which were noted were remedied by informal action. 578 visits were made to shop premises for other purposes during which Shops Act matters were noted.

It was not necessary during the year to take any action concerning unsatisfactory office accommodation.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act is expected to come into operation in 1964.

DIRTY CONDITIONS AND ERADICATION OF VERMIN  
(Revised)

During the year 37 visits were made to houses to remedy dirty conditions.

There is great improvement in the general standard of cleanliness but the occasional very dirty house is encountered. Usually it is an old person, who lives alone, and is no longer able to cope with cleaning, and is unwilling to accept help from others.

The County Domestic Help Service is available and a little regular help from this Service makes it possible for many old people to retain their independence much longer than would otherwise be possible.

Verminous houses are rarely encountered but bugs were dealt with at one dwelling house and a caravan. Care is taken to avoid possibility of introducing vermin into Council houses by inspection of furniture and effects of incoming tenants when that is thought necessary.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948  
(Revised)

Tables giving the prescribed particulars required to be furnished by Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937, are included at the end of the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

These show that there have been 24 inspections of factories, and visits to outworkers homes. This was to ensure that the "outwork" (in this case the making of wearing apparel and artificial flowers) was carried out under satisfactory conditions.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES  
(Revised)

The Public Health Act, 1936, provided for the licensing of caravans and sites for moveable dwellings. At Herne Bay 11 holiday camping sites were licensed under that Act. In addition there were two sites operated by the Council at Reculver which did not require to be licensed.

In August, 1960, control of caravan sites passed from the Public Health Act to a new Act, the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Tents and moveable dwellings other than caravans are still controlled by the Public Health Act, 1936.



The object of the new Act is to confer upon local authorities more effective powers for controlling caravan sites. It not only strengthens the powers of planning authorities, but introduces a new system of licensing. This is operated in conjunction with planning consideration and not separately as was the confusing arrangement when licences were issued under the Public Health Act. It was possible under that Act to grant a licence without any regard to planning considerations. Indeed, if there were no grounds for refusal, a licence would have to be granted under the old procedure even though planning consent had been refused. This was a contradictory state of affairs which caused difficulties for those who had to administer the Act. We welcome the more sensible system of licensing which has been introduced by the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act of 1960.

In the Circular which accompanied the Act the Minister has stated that the aim is to secure that all caravan sites, whether residential or holiday sites, are properly equipped and run; that sites are not allowed in the wrong places but are allowed in acceptable places. The Circular also indicated that where planning permission is given it should be on a permanent or long term basis unless there is some definite reason against it.

Where there is limited planning consent it is, in our experience, most desirable that the period should not be too short for otherwise the site developer is unable to incur the expenditure necessary to establish satisfactory amenities at the site. That has been a difficulty in the past when limited planning consent was sometimes as short as three years. Under the new Act 15 years is the usual period for limited planning consent. This period is sufficient to enable a site owner to obtain a return upon the capital investment necessary for the establishment of a modern holiday caravan site.

The new Act required local authorities to review all existing licences within a period of 6 months. A most important provision of the new Act is the power of the Minister to prescribe "Model Standards" with respect to layout of caravan sites, provision of facilities, services, and equipment. Local authorities, in deciding the conditions to attach to a site licence shall have regard to any standards so specified. This applies with even greater emphasis when local authorities are considering the conditions of any caravan sites they may own and operate.

Model Standards have, in fact, been prescribed under the new Act. These were set out in my report for 1962.

Existing caravan sites at Herne Bay fell short of the Model Standards in the following respects. Most of them required:-

- (a) Reduction in number of caravans.
- (b) Construction of additional toilet facilities. Provision of baths or showers and of laundry facilities.
- (c) Construction of roads.
- (d) Provision of suitably surfaced car park.
- (e) Provision of a dustbin and chemical fire extinguisher at each caravan.
- (f) Increase in the number of water points and drainage disposal points.
- (g) Some sites are deficient in recreation space. This deficiency will be automatically remedied as the number of caravans is reduced.

The Council adopted the recommendations of the Committee and in doing so decided that there should be no reduction in the number of caravans upon sites for the season 1961.

The Public Health and Housing Committee has phased the implementation of the Model Standards so that they will not have full effect until 1965. This allowed a standstill for one year and four further years for a "run down" in the number of caravans where reduction has to take place upon an existing site.

The intention is to avoid hardship to the site owner and to the caravan owner. There is a natural wastage each year as caravans are taken from a site for various reasons. These should not be replaced until the reduced number is reached. The extent to which the reduction can be achieved in this way avoids hardship.



Dustbins and fire extinguishers were provided at each caravan in the first year (1961). Car parks and additional water points and drainage disposal points were to be provided in 1962, and the remaining requirements of a structural nature in 1963, namely, roads, additional toilets, baths and laundry facilities.

Each site operator is required to submit proposals for the planting of trees and shrubs. The satisfactory screening and landscaping of a site is controlled by licence as also is the prohibition of the use of such unsatisfactory structures as railway vehicles, tram cars, omnibus bodies, etc.

The new licence conditions contain not only the Model Standards, but also the local provisions which have been found to be necessary during the many years we have had experience in the control of caravan sites.

The following table shows the caravan sites which are licensed under the new Act. The figures in the second column show the number of caravans permitted at each site. Those in the third column show the increase or reduction at each site necessary to reach the number of caravans permitted by the licence.

At some sites it will be noted that there is an increase in the number of caravans instead of a reduction. This occurs where a site is not yet fully developed or where planning consent has been given for the site to be enlarged.

REGISTER OF SITE LICENCES (Revised)

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960  
(Section 25)

Site	Area in Acres (Unless otherwise stated)	Number of caravans permitted by licence	Reduction or increase in the number of caravans to reach the permitted number
Municipal (East)	13.5	362 (revised)	- 17
Municipal (West)	7.7	175	- 11
Hillborough Caravan Park	19	400 (increased by 2)	+ 40
Glen Court, Beltinge	34,770 sq. ft. + 3,477 sq. ft. (re-creation space)	43 (increased by 18)	- 2
Cliff Pavilion, Beltinge	3.738	94	- 20
Coastguard Camping Site	1	50	Correct number
Orchard Camping Site	2.275	57	- 2
Reculver House	2.702	68	- 1
Waterways, Reculver	3.816	95	+ 3
Hoathwood, Herne	3.971	<del>160</del> (increased by <del>60</del> )	+ 60
Seaside Caravan Park	1.833	46	Correct number
Westbrook Farm	2.6	65	- 2
Keat Farm	3.2 (approx.)	75	- 10
Huntsman & Horn	1 (approx.)	21	+ 8

Note

- (a) The site at Keat Farm was licensed under the above Act for the first time in 1963.
- (b) All the above caravan sites are "holiday" sites. Licences permit occupation of caravans from 1st March until 31st October in each year.

## Municipal Caravan Park, Reculver - East and West Sites (Revised)

The Camp Manager is responsible for the day to day control of both sites. In 1961 following meetings of a sub-committee to consider the application of Model Standards, it was decided to commence implementing these standards by providing additional water closets within existing buildings at both sites. That was carried out before the 1962 season. Additional toilet blocks were under construction on the East site at the end of 1963. These would be completed before the 1964 season, together with a further extension of concrete road. The number of caravans upon the West site has been reduced by 26.

## Camping at sites which are not licensed (Repeated)

During school holidays numerous tented camps are set up by Youth Organisations which are exempt from the licensing requirements of the Public Health Act. These are generally well organised and conducted.

There are a few caravans which are not at licensed sites. Most of these are exempt from licensing requirements.

Abbotswood Estate at the West End of the town was sold as small building plots many years ago but has not been developed. There are a few caravans and a number of sheds which are used for holidays during the summer.

The Council has refused to permit any more caravans upon the site and is considering the removal of those which are there.

## Action taken concerning licensed caravan sites during the year 1963 (New)

### Hoathwood Caravan Camp, Herne Common

This caravan site was licensed in 1961 for 100 caravans for a limited period. After an appeal was allowed in 1962 the number was increased by 60 caravans. The licence was amended to permit a total of 160 caravans to be sited until 5th January, 1975.

### Reculver House Caravan Site

This caravan site was licensed in 1961 for 60 caravans for a limited period. Planning consent was subsequently given for the use of the land to continue until April 1976.

The licence has been amended to permit a total of 68 caravans until April 1976.

#### Glencourt Caravan Camp, Beltinge

This caravan site was licensed in 1961 for 25 caravans without restriction as to the duration of the licence. An appeal to the Minister was allowed which permits temporary use of additional land as a site for 18 caravans until October 1971.

The licence has been amended to allow a total of 43 caravans, 18 of which are permitted until October 1971.

#### Hillborough Park Caravan Site

This caravan site was licensed in 1961 for 398 caravans. The licence was due to expire in October 1965.

Planning consent, unrestricted as to time, has since been granted for the stationing of 400 caravans upon the site. The licence has been amended accordingly.

#### Keat Farm Caravan Site

A licence for 75 caravans was granted for a period to expire on 31st October, 1970, which is the period of temporary planning consent.

#### Huntsman and Horn Caravan Site

Application was made for this holiday site to be used as a residential caravan site. The application was refused.

#### Waterways Caravan Site, Reculver

The licence of this caravan site was transferred to the Waterways Caravan and Amusement Park Limited with effect from 24th March, 1963.

#### Seaside Caravan Park, Studd Hill

This site is licensed for 46 caravans. There has been difficulty in securing 20 ft. spacing between each of the vans. Upon the application of the Licensee, the licence conditions were relaxed to allow 15 ft. between 9 specified caravan positions upon the licensed site.



## Licence Conditions

Any decision to increase the number of caravans at a site has been made subject to compliance with licence conditions previously mentioned. This implies an increase in the number of water closets, wash basins, ablution facilities, etc. at the sites concerned.

## Progress in the compliance with licence requirements

Except at two caravan sites there has been reasonable progress towards full compliance with licence conditions. Buildings have been constructed, roads laid, and water supply extended.

Satisfactory arrangements for car parking have yet to be made at some sites. Echelon parking upon concrete strips laid off the access roads is a good method to employ. It economises in the use of land, and it enables cars to be parked within a short distance of their owners' caravans.

At sites where the number of caravans exceeds the number permitted by the licences, there has been some reduction. It will be noted from the table on page 42 that, at two sites, full reduction has been made, and at three sites there are less caravans than the number permitted by the licences.

## Annual Census (New)

Every year a census of caravans upon licensed sites is taken during the peak holiday period. In 1963 the census was taken upon the 7th August. There were a total of 1,683 caravans upon the 12 licensed sites and the two municipal sites at Reculver.

## INSECT PESTS (Revised)

99 applications were received and dealt with for the destruction of various insect pests including bugs, fleas, flies, cockroaches, earwigs, silver fish, ants, red mite, furniture beetles, wasps and bees. Ponds and streams were occasionally sprayed throughout the summer months for the destruction of mosquitoes, etc.



We are sometimes asked to give advice concerning insects which are unknown to us. These we send to the British Museum (Natural History Section) for identification. The Entomologist promptly supplies full information of life history, habits and methods of destruction. This service is much appreciated.

Much thought has been given to the problem of furniture beetle (woodworm) at Council houses. Estimates have been obtained from pest destruction contractors. All of these are very expensive. It has been decided, upon the advice of the Surveyor, to treat Council houses for beetle destruction by direct labour for an experimental period.

### RODENT CONTROL (Revised)

A free service is provided by the Council for the destruction of rats and mice at private dwellings. A charge is made at business premises, including farms.

During the year under review, 269 premises were treated for destruction of rats and mice. All adjoining premises were surveyed to ascertain the extent of infestations reported or discovered. A total of 2,041 visits were made for survey of premises and treatment where rats were found.

Rat destruction is not a haphazard process. A standard technique is carefully followed, and advantage is taken of new poisons and improved methods as these are developed by the Research Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, whose assistance I am pleased to acknowledge. Efforts of neighbouring local authorities are co-ordinated and joint meetings are held from time to time.

#### Treatment was applied for rat destruction at :

Private dwellings	185
Business premises	12
Agricultural premises	8
Broomfield tip	20
Allotments	6
May Street Sewage Works	10
King's Hall and Pier	4
Reculver Caravan Site	4
Roadside ditches	3

Treatment for destruction of mice was applied at :

Business premises	1
Private dwellings	16

One "major" infestation only was dealt with at Broomfield tip.

Note

Where the estimated "kill" exceeds 12 rats, it is considered to be a "major" infestation. Where the "kill" is less than 12, the infestation is considered to be "minor".

It was not necessary to take statutory action to deal with any of the above infestations.

The Council's refuse tip at Broomfield is treated regularly each month throughout the year for rat destruction. A refuse tip is a special attraction to rats.

Agricultural land and premises were systematically surveyed throughout the district. Some local farmers pay for the services of the Council's Rodent Operator; others make their own arrangements to destroy rats.

Accumulations were removed frequently from undeveloped land. They afford harbourage for rats and mice.

RAT DESTRUCTION IN SEWERS  
(Revised)

Sewers are treated regularly each year for rat destruction. A comprehensive treatment was applied to the nine sections of the sewerage system during the month of November. There are a total of 976 manholes, and 10% were baited. Rats were found at only four manholes. These were poison baited, together with adjacent manholes, until there was no further trace of rats.

Treatment of sewers for destruction of rats is considered to be important because sewer infestations so often give rise to surface infestations. If rats are to be controlled upon the surface, sewers must not escape treatment. It is fortunate for the purpose of rat control that the sewerage system at Herne Bay is composed of nine separate sections. This isolates infestations and facilitates rat destruction treatment. In four of the sections there has been no trace of rats since 1947.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951  
(Repeated)

This Act, which came into force on the 1st November, 1951, is intended to secure the use of clean filling materials for which purpose a local authority must :

- (a) Consider the granting, renewing or withholding of licences for premises relating to rag flock;
- (b) Carry out inspections of registered and licensed premises as often as may appear to be necessary;
- (c) Grant certificates of registration in respect of premises using filling materials to which the Act applies;
- (d) Take proceedings for offences under the Act.

Four premises in the Urban District are registered under the Act. Very little rag flock is now used.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT  
(Revised)

During the year many complaints were received of noise from an engineering works at Herne. Residents were particularly concerned about noise on Sundays and at night.

They forwarded a petition to the Ministry, and a sub-committee of the Public Health and Housing Committee met the management at the works in November. We were informed that the heavy (and noisy) processes had been transferred to another factory not within the Urban District. We were also informed that night work, and Sunday work would occur only upon exceptional occasions. No further complaints have been received.

HOUSING  
(Revised)

Inspection, Repair, Closure and Demolition

(a) Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts	
Primary inspections .....	118
Revisits .....	381

(b)	Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation and incapable of repair at reasonable expense .....	8
(c)	Number of houses at which defects were remedied by informal action .....	31
(d)	Number of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices under the Public Health Act and Housing Act .....	6
	(One of these houses made fit by the Council after the owner's failure to comply with a notice served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957.)	
(e)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made .....	1
(f)	Number of houses demolished (demolition orders made in previous years) .....	7
(g)	Number of houses and parts of houses closed in pursuance of Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 ..	7
(h)	Number of houses reconditioned and undertakings or Closing Orders subsequently cancelled .....	4

#### Notes

- (e) Demolition order was made in respect of -  
Cherry Tree Cottage Hillborough.
- (f) Houses demolished were:-  
16 and 18 Lower Herne.  
103, 105, 107, and 109 Reculver Road (demolished voluntarily by owner)  
52 Clarendon Street.
- (g) Houses and parts of houses in respect of which Closing Orders and/or undertakings were made prohibiting their use for human habitation:-  
55 King's Road  
87 Mortimer Street (2 basement rooms)  
47 William Street  
21 St. George's Terrace (2 basement rooms)  
2 Clarence Road  
3 and 4 Box Iron Cottages



(h) Houses closed as unfit for human habitation and subsequently made fit (Closing Orders determined):-

1 and 2 Pond Cottages  
2 Tower Cottages  
4 Box Iron Cottages

### "SLUM" CLEARANCE

#### THE FIRST "FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME" - PROGRESS REPORT (Revised)

In 1955, 139 houses were surveyed and 65 of them were scheduled as unfit. They were dealt with by demolition or closure, during a five year period 1955/60. During the same period, a further 43 houses were found to be unfit for human habitation and were closed or demolished. These had not been included in the 5 year programme. The survey was carried out by all local authorities as a requirement of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

#### THE KING'S ROAD CLEARANCE AREA (PHASE I) (Revised)

This Clearance Area comprises Nos. 74 - 90 King's Road (9 houses), Nos. 14 - 17 Queen Street (4 houses), and Snow Cottage, Beach Street. It was represented in June 1959, and a Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed after a local Public Enquiry.

During 1961, a start was made upon the rehousing of tenants, and by the end of 1962 all tenants had been rehoused. Redevelopment of the site for housing purposes will commence in 1964.

#### HERNE CLEARANCE AREA (Revised)

There were no objections to the Council's proposals to demolish 9 unfit houses at Herne Street, viz. 1 - 4 Sheppards Cottages and 1 - 5 South View Cottages.

A Compulsory Purchase Order was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August 1961, and all tenants had been rehoused before the end of that year. 14 flats were constructed upon the cleared sites in 1963.



THE SECOND "FIVE YEAR PROGRAMME"  
(Revised)

Upon completion of the first five year programme (1955-60), the Council was required to prepare a second five year programme for the clearance of any remaining unfit houses. It was resolved to include the following 16 houses in the new programme (1960-65). (King's Road Clearance Area Phase II)

King's Road	60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72.
Queen Street	5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13.
William Street	60, 62. (Occupied as one house)

The houses were the subject of an official representation in 1962, and it was resolved to make a Compulsory Purchase Order.

This will enable the Council to complete redevelopment of the island site upon the King's Road, Beach Street and Queen Street frontage.

At the request of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government it has been decided to deal with 18 remaining unfit houses by 1966 instead of by 1970 as proposed. This will comprise the third and final phase of the King's Road Clearance Area. It will include houses upon the south side of King's Road.

HERNE BAY (BEACH STREET) COMPULSORY  
PURCHASE ORDER, 1962.  
(Revised)

This Order was confirmed following a local enquiry held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 12th September, 1962.

The land was acquired under the Housing Act as a consequence of the non-development by the owners of land included in a Clearance Order which resulted in the demolition of Nos. 1 - 9 Beach Street. This land has been made available to the Highways Committee for car parking purposes.

HOUSING ACT, 1957 - OVERCROWDING  
(Revised)

1. Number of new cases of overcrowding recorded  
during the year ..... 8\*
2. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved  
during the year ..... 11

\* These do not all constitute overcrowding as legally defined.

IMPROVEMENTS AND CONVERSIONS  
(Revised)

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959

HOUSING ACT, 1961

These Acts deal with improvement grants which were introduced as long ago as 1949 in the Housing Act of that year. For many years neither local authorities nor the public made much use of the legislation authorising the making of improvement grants despite constant encouragement by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Basically the grants are intended to be used to improve and modernise the older type of houses which are structurally sound but lacking amenities. Grants are also available for the conversion of the larger type of old dwelling which is structurally sound and can be converted to more than one separate habitation.

In June 1959 a new system of "standard" grants was introduced to supplement the existing system of improvement grants.

The new "standard" grants are intended to assist with the cost of installing what might be called "standard amenities", i.e.

Bath  
Water closet  
Wash-hand basin  
Hot water supply  
Foodstore

Grant for a standard amenity can be claimed as a right subject to the house having a certain life, and to it being in a reasonable state of fitness for habitation. This right to a standard grant introduced a new principle. The earlier type of grant, which remains for larger improvements and conversions, is at the discretion of a local authority. It may or may not make a "discretionary grant", and can decide the amount of the grant not exceeding 50% of the cost of improvement works, with a maximum of £400 per unit.

The total number of applications approved during 1963 for both types of grant was 34 being 7 more than for 1962. Ten applications were received for standard improvement grants which shows slight improvement upon the figures for 1960, 1961 and 1962.

The Housing Act, 1961, increased the amount of permitted rent increase for improvements from 8% to 12<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>% per annum of the amount spent upon the improvements by the owner. It was hoped this may provide an additional inducement to owners of rented properties in need of improvement. So far the response of owners to the new inducement has been disappointing.

Most applications for both types of grant are received from owner-occupiers. Very few landlords will improve houses for their tenants and it seems that the object of improvement grants will not be achieved unless there is some measure of compulsion. At the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors held at Scarborough, the following resolution was adopted:

"That this Conference re-affirms the view expressed in the resolution passed at the 1958 Conference that, the Minister of Housing and Local Government should introduce legislation empowering Local Authorities to enforce the improvement of houses so as to satisfy modern standards of comfort and convenience."

By the end of 1963 it was clear that Parliament would be asked to approve new legislation which would introduce a measure of compulsion upon owners to improve their properties.

The following are the figures for 1963:-

	<u>Kind of Grant</u>	
	<u>Discretionary</u>	<u>Standard</u>
Number of schemes submitted	24	11
" " grants approved	24	10
" " dwellings resulting	24	-
Total cost of approved works	£ 13,569	£ 1,707
" amount of grants approved	£ 6,079	£ 766
" " " " paid	£ 4,971	£ 603

Improvement Grant Conditions  
(New)

Improvement grants are made subject to certain conditions. Owners sometimes have to be reminded that they are charging higher rents than they should at improved houses.

In another instance, a house improved with the aid of a grant, remained unoccupied for a considerable period after completion of the improvement works. The owner was reminded that the grant would have to be repaid if the house was not soon occupied.

Ministry of Housing & Local Government  
Circular 42/62  
(Revised)

This Circular, issued in August 1962, was intended to stimulate interest in improvement grants. In an endeavour to secure a "very big increase" in the number of houses being improved local authorities are urged to make "a determined and sustained effort" to bring that about.

The Minister outlined in the Circular a plan of action for local authorities to make a "systematic approach" to the subject by selecting streets or areas most worthy of improvement.

He offered to consider the use of compulsory powers of acquisition in respect of houses which owners had failed to improve, especially in streets, or areas, where other owners were carrying out improvements.

As a result of this Circular there was a survey of the houses known to have lacked standard amenities when they were built.



A total of 931 houses were visited and 474 of them were found to have been provided with the standard amenities they lacked when constructed. These were nearly all owner-occupied. The balance of 457 houses were found to be in need of standard improvements as follows:-

Houses requiring a fixed bath or shower in a bathroom	282
Houses requiring an internal W.C.	200
Houses requiring a wash basin	316
Houses requiring a hot water system	350
Houses requiring a satisfactory foodstore	307

To follow up the survey a letter was sent to each owner setting out the improvements needed at his dwelling. The letter informed him of the grant which would be available and offered all possible assistance by the Public Health Department. The Council also decided to make loans available for improvement works in satisfactory cases.

Response to this appeal was poor, two applications only were received from owners of houses which had been surveyed. This poor response supports the view that no real advance will be made with the improvement of out of date houses until a measure of compulsion is introduced.

#### Improvement Grant Exhibition (New)

The Ministry's Mobile Improvement Grant Exhibition and film show was on display in the town for a fortnight during August. Letters were sent to all local builders, estate agents, and architects calling their attention to the exhibition.

#### Improvements at Council houses (Revised)

I have referred in previous reports to the 132 pre-war houses which require standard improvements. During 1962 these houses were inspected with the object of ascertaining the nature of the improvements required.

These are as follows:-

- (a) Hot water systems with draw off taps over bath, sink and wash basin.
- (b) Wash basins.
- (c) Provision of door and frame in rear entrance passages.
- (d) Internal water closets.

It was found that:-

10 houses at Margate Road require (a), (b) above.

62 houses at Stanley Gardens	}	Require (a), (b) and (c) above.
10 " " Claremont Street		
1 house at Park Road		

11 houses at Claremont Street	}	Require (a), (b) and (d) above.
13 " " Clarendon Street		
7 " " Grafton Rise		
4 " " Park Road		

14 houses at Windsor Villas, Sea Street, require (b) above.

During 1963 the ten pre-war houses at Margate Road, Broomfield were improved as a "pilot" scheme, using electricity as a means of providing a hot water system. It was decided at the same time to take the opportunity of improving the kitchens to make them more convenient. The improvement works rank for grant. They were carried out at a cost of £1,060. Rents have been increased by 2/10d. per week.

72 Charles Street, which belongs to the Council, was also improved with the aid of a grant.

RENT ACT. 1957  
(Repeated)

This Act, which raised much controversy, came into operation on 6th July, 1957. Briefly, it decontrols certain houses and allows the rents of others to be increased subject to reasonable repair.

A tenant can serve upon the landlord a notice setting out particulars of the repairs considered necessary. After a period of 6 weeks, if the landlord and tenant have not agreed upon what is to be done, and no undertaking has been given by the landlord, application can be made to the Council for a "Certificate of Disrepair".

When such a certificate is granted the tenant can make certain rent deductions until it is cancelled upon completion of the necessary works.

Very little use is now made of the Act by tenants to secure Certificates of Disrepair. Evictions under the Rent Act are now frequent and tenants feel insecure. They are disinclined to risk offending their landlords by applying for Certificates of Disrepair.

MILK  
(Revised)

Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

Every local authority is required under these regulations to keep a register of the following:-

- (a) Dairies, except those at dairy farms.
- (b) Distributors of milk.

The number registered at Herne Bay at the end of 1963 was :-

(a) Dairies	-	1
(b) Distributors	-	64

Only five of the 64 distributors sell milk as their main trade. Two of these bottle some of their milk locally upon their own premises. Most of the milk sold at Herne Bay is bottled at premises elsewhere.

The remaining 59 distributors trade in groceries and general provisions selling bottled milk as a "side line". These are encouraged to keep bottled milk in their refrigerators pending sale. Any milk unsold on the day of delivery to the distributors should be collected by the supplier.

Herne Bay is in an area where all milk sold must be pasteurised, sterilised, or be raw milk from Tuberculin Tested cows.

A licence, valid for 5 years, to sell milk under Special Designation must be obtained from the Kent County Council which is the licensing authority under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1960. A licence will not be granted until the applicant has been registered with the District Council as a Distributor.

During the year 14 applications were received for registration as distributors of milk. 12 of these were from occupiers of premises from which milk had not previously been sold.

#### Examination of Samples (Revised)

The following samples of milk were collected and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone for examination.

Designation of Milk	No. of samples taken.	Satisfied the test.	Failed the test.
Pasteurised Methylene Blue test	18	18	None
Tuberculin tested (raw)			
Methylene Blue test	2	1	1

#### Pasteurisation Plant (Repeated)

There is one small pasteurising plant in the Urban District. It is licensed by the Kent County Council, which is the Food and Drugs Authority. This plant, formerly the "Holder Method", was replaced by the more modern High Temperature Short Time Pasteurising Plant in 1958.

#### Tuberculosis (Area Eradication) Order 1950 (Repeated)

It is interesting to note the progress made in the eradication of bovine tuberculosis from our dairy herds.



Kent reached "Attested Area" status on 1st October, 1958, and the whole of England and Wales was declared an "Attested Area" on 1st October, 1960.

This is regarded as the final stage of eradication of bovine tuberculosis in England and Wales.

This information was supplied by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. He points out that the incidence of tuberculosis in dairy herds is now extremely low and "should certainly be a diminishing factor".

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Repeated)

##### Meat Inspection and Slaughter Arrangements

At the outbreak of war there were four licensed slaughterhouses in use at Herne Bay. By the end of 1956 there remained only one licensed slaughterhouse, and it had not been used since 1939.

That remaining licence was allowed to lapse at the end of 1959, when the ownership of the premises changed. The new owner intimated that he was not prepared to carry out the extensive alterations and improvements which would be necessary.

Licences of the four unsatisfactory slaughterhouses at Herne Bay have thus been allowed to lapse over a period of years, with no hardship or inconvenience to their owners, and no payment of compensation by the Council.

I have explained in previous annual reports the many phases which led up to the present position. It is sufficient now to record that the Council was much concerned in the early post-war period about the four rather poor licensed slaughterhouses at Herne Bay, and about the whole question of the slaughtering needs of the district.

##### Slaughterhouse Reports (Appointed Day) Order, 1959 (Repeated)

The organisations and butchers concerned were asked whether they had any comment on the Council's proposed report to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food about slaughterhouse facilities for the Herne Bay area. No

adverse comments were received. It was resolved by the Council that the Ministry be told that in the Herne Bay area, the existing and probable future requirements for slaughter-house facilities, are adequately met by the Canterbury Abattoir.

#### Meat Transport (Repeated)

The transport of meat is controlled by legislation. Meat vans are inspected from time to time when seen unloading in the town. Representations have been made which have secured improvements in transport and handling of meat. Some well designed vans are now in use.

#### Unsound Food (Revised)

During the year 841 lbs. of food of all kinds was found to be unfit for human consumption and was surrendered by various traders. Although carcasses and organs of animals are inspected at the Abattoir when slaughtered, conditions are occasionally met with at butchers shops which could not be detected at time of slaughter. I refer to such conditions as deep-seated bruising, bone taint, abscesses, advanced fatty change, etc., which are dealt with by your own Inspectors, who are qualified Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods. The above figure of unsound food includes 240 lbs. of home killed and imported meat.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial.

#### The Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations (Repeated)

These Regulations came into force upon 1st November, 1960. They require all butchers meat, and imported meat which is unfit for human food, to be sterilised, and all knackers meat to be stained or sterilised, before entering the chain of distribution.

This gives greater control over the disposal of unsound butchers meat, and knacker meat, much of which is supplied to retailers of pets meat. At a pet shop the retailer has to ensure that all raw knacker meat is stained at the time of sale.

Butchers, who from time to time, may have meat in their possession which is unfit, must sterilise it, or arrange for it to be sterilised, to the satisfaction of the local authority.

THE FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960  
(Revised)

In previous annual reports I have outlined the action taken since Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation on 1st January, 1956. All food premises were then inspected and they have since been revisited from time to time to secure compliance with legal requirements. The original Regulations have been amended and consolidated in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Premises and equipment continue to be brought up to the required standard, indeed many have exceeded the minimum legal standards imposed by the Regulations.

Improvements resulting from the Hygiene Regulations are set out upon page 34 in the table headed "Summary of Defects Remedied and Improvements Effected".

578 visits were made during 1963 to inspect food premises.

This greatly increased number of visits has been made possible by the addition to the staff of another Public Health Inspector who devotes a considerable part of his time to food premises and food hygiene.

Offences for which warnings were given

Grease in bread .....	1
Mouldy meat pie .....	1
Smoking whilst handling "open" food .....	1
Sale of meat at premises with inadequate facilities (discontinued) .....	1

Food Hygiene - Codes of Practice (Repeated)

The Minister of Health, jointly with the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, prepared and issued codes of practice relating to hygiene in the retail meat trade, and the hygienic transport and handling of meat. These were followed by similar codes of practice for the fish trade. It is hoped that these extremely useful codes of practice will be generally followed throughout the trades.

Hygiene by common consent is more likely to succeed than hygiene imposed by legislation, although it has to be available in the last resort for those who will not respond to persuasion.

## Ice Cream (Revised)

Premises at which ice cream is manufactured or sold are subject to control by the Food and Drugs Act. The manufacture and sale of ice cream is also controlled by the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960.

At the end of 1963 a total of 123 premises were registered for the sale of ice cream, and two for the manufacture and sale of ice cream. During the year, 3 new registrations were approved, two for the sale of wrapped ice cream, and one for the sale of "soft" ice cream.

In addition to the above, ice cream is sold at Cafes, Inns, and Restaurants, which do not require to be registered under the Food and Drugs Act.

"Lollipops" are manufactured at two premises, but these do not require to be registered for that purpose. It is the policy to encourage traders selling wrapped ice cream to provide litter receptacles upon their premises. This helps considerably in keeping wrappers off the pavements outside ice cream premises.

"Soft" ice cream has now become very popular. At the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors at Southport the following resolution was adopted:-

"That in view of recent developments in the manufacture of soft ice cream, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, be urged to review the legislation governing the manufacture, storage and sale of this product."

## Examination of Samples (Revised)

24 samples were submitted for pathological examination during the year with the following results:-

No. of Samples	Classification in Grades.
12	Grade I
7	" II
3	" III
2	" IV



These results can be regarded as satisfactory. The samples were taken from local manufacturers and from "soft" ice cream dispensers. These sources are more prone to contamination than a national brand of wrapped ice cream.

17 samples were also submitted for chemical analysis and were shown to have very good compositional quality - superior in all cases to the minimum compositional standard now required by law. Results of samples taken over the years give confidence that good quality ice cream is produced and sold to the public under satisfactory conditions of cleanliness.

The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Regulations, 1959, prescribe standards of composition for Ice cream, Dairy Ice cream, Dairy Cream Ice, or Cream Ice, and Parev (Kosher) ice. The addition of artificial sweetener to ice cream of any description is prohibited.

The Regulations replace the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1953. They prescribe amended standards of composition for ice cream and "Parev"(Kosher) ice and introduce separate standards of composition for dairy ice cream and milk ice. Alternative standards are prescribed for certain descriptions of ice cream containing fruit, fruit pulp, or fruit puree.

#### REGISTERED FOOD PREMISES (Revised)

In addition to the registered dairies and ice cream premises already referred to, the following food premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act:-

Premises for preparation and manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale .....	32
Fried fish shops .....	5

Local Government Act, 1894 - Section 27 (New)

Game Licence

Licences to sell game were granted under the above Act to a butcher and a fishmonger. Two licences are required by every dealer in game, namely, a Revenue Licence granted by the County Council under the Finance Act, 1908, and a licence granted by the District Council under the Local Government Act, 1894. The applicant has to obtain a licence from the District Council before the County Council will grant a Revenue Licence.

HEALTH EDUCATION  
(Revised)

The Council decided to become members of the Central Council for Health Education on the basis of the minimum contribution rate of 2/9d. per thousand population. The Council also joined the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council.

The Senior Public Health Inspector attended as a delegate at the Annual Conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors at Eastbourne.

Local organisations have been addressed upon various aspects of the work of the Public Health Department.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957  
(Repeated)

In August of 1957 the administration of the above Order was delegated by the Kent County Council to the Herne Bay Urban District Council.

The Order requires the licensing of plant to ensure the efficient boiling of waste foods intended to be used for feeding pigs and poultry.

There are two local pig and poultry keepers who operate within the scope of the Order.

## HOUSING MANAGEMENT

### HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OWNED BY THE COUNCIL (Revised)

By the end of 1963, the Council owned 846 houses, prefabs, and flats. During the year 14 flats were completed at Herne Street, and 10 flats at Grand Drive. A further 10 flats were under construction at Clarendon Street.

Pre-war Houses - 163

3 bedrooms - 159

4 bedrooms - 4

Post-war houses - 429

2 bedrooms - 92

3 bedrooms - 323

4 bedrooms - 14

Temporary Prefabricated Bungalows - 49

2 bedrooms - 49

Post-war flats - 190

1 bedroom - 83

2 bedrooms - 107

"Other" Houses, Bungalows, and flats - 15

(Properties acquired by the Council other than by new construction but does not include cottages at May Street Sewage Works)

Houses (at Reculver) - 3

Bungalows (at Churchill Avenue) - 2

Flats, resulting from conversion of houses - 10

### NEW HOUSES ERECTED AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION (Revised)

The number of new houses erected during the year and the number under construction on 31st December, 1963, was as follows:-

Houses and flats erected by :	Number erected	Number under construction
The Local Authority	24	10
Other bodies and persons	283	244
TOTALS	307	254

### Purposes of house building by local authorities (completely revised)

Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 55/61 sets out the main purposes for which local authorities should continue to build houses. These are for:-

Slum Clearance  
The elderly  
Overspill  
Relief of overcrowding and bad housing conditions

Each year there is a meeting of the Public Health and Housing Committee at which the future building programme is decided.

At that meeting information is available as to the number of applicants upon the general waiting list, and the number of families to be rehoused from unfit houses. Accommodation, which we know from experience will probably be given up during the next year, is taken into account.

For several years it has been the policy to construct flats. These are cheaper to build, and they can be used to release under-occupied houses. Flats are also required for the many elderly applicants.

At the King's Road Clearance Area the town's first multi-storey flats are to be constructed, one block to a height of 7 stories and two others to a lesser height. High building costs, high rates of interest, high cost of land, combine to make building very expensive. This is a considerable deterrent to the building of houses for general purposes.

To a large extent we rely upon termination of tenancies of Council houses and flats to supply accommodation for general needs.



HOUSING REGISTER  
(Revised)

The register at the end of the year 1963 contained the names of 380 applicants; all but 15 of whom were local residents. The 15 non-residents qualify as applicants because they are employed at Herne Bay. 120 of these applicants had registered for less than a year.

Classification of applicants upon the waiting list, according to the type of accommodation required, showed the following:-

Applicants with children (needing 2, 3, or 4 bedroom houses)	170
Elderly and middle aged couples (needing 2 bedroom flats)	82
Young couples without children (needing 2 bedroom houses)	8
Single applicants - mostly elderly widows (needing single bedroom flats)	120

The waiting list, which reached a peak of nearly 1,000 in the early post-war years, reduced to 260 by December, 1956. It has since fluctuated as can be seen from the table which follows.

The most genuine and urgent need for housing accommodation undoubtedly exists among young people who are struggling to raise families in a couple of rooms. Often these are in their parents' homes with all the friction which inevitably arises from shared kitchens, etc.

Other reasons for seeking Council accommodation have been referred to in my previous annual reports as under:-

- (a) The Rent Act, 1957, has so increased the rents of privately owned properties that Council houses are now a better proposition - better houses with modern amenities at rents which are generally lower than comparable houses privately owned.

Tenants who were prepared to endure low rented houses in poor repair and lacking in amenities have had to meet heavy rent increases and are now seeking better value for their money.

Many tenants of privately owned houses have received notice to quit and feel insecure even though some owners are disinclined to enforce eviction by taking Court proceedings. These tenants place their names on the Council's housing register.

- (b) The construction by the Council of attractive flats has stimulated a flow of new applications from many elderly people who had not previously considered applying for Council accommodation. Many of these are having to pay higher rent increases than they can afford, and others are finding it difficult to live in large houses they cannot maintain.

The following table shows the position of the housing register since 1950:

December 1950 .	-	645	applicants
" 1951	-	495	"
" 1952	-	512	"
" 1953	-	323	"
" 1954	-	346	"
" 1955	-	317	"
" 1956	-	260	"
" 1957	-	305	"
" 1958	-	355	"
" 1959	-	397	"
" 1960	-	413	"
" 1961	-	384	"
" 1962	-	388	"
" 1963	-	380	"

We know from our records that approximately half the number of persons who make application for housing accommodation are never considered. By the time their applications are due for consideration they have left the town or have solved their housing problems without the Council's assistance. This is a factor which enables one to assess the true significance of the number of persons upon the waiting list at any given time.

There was a postal check in November upon applicants who had been waiting for one year but not more than two years. This resulted in the removal of 30 names from the register.

## Policy in the selection of tenants (New)

Over the years a policy has been formulated in the selection of tenants. In May, I produced a report setting out the various principles and considerations which, together, constitute this selection policy. The document is too lengthy to reproduce in this annual report but the main points are covered by the following headings:-

- (a) Basic consideration - housing need.
- (b) Balancing factors - length of residence and period of waiting.
- (c) Residence qualification before acceptance as applicant - (one year).
- (d) Waiting period before consideration - (at least one year)
- (e) Housing from unfit houses.
- (f) Housing of staff.
- (g) Housing of evicted families.
- (h) Housing of keyworkers in new industries.
- (i) Regular long service in H.M. Forces.
- (j) Periodical review of applications.

### RESIDENCE QUALIFICATION (Repeated)

It was decided in 1961 to refuse admission to the Housing Register unless an applicant has resided in the town for at least 12 months. This requirement, together with the waiting period of 12 months before consideration of a new application, ensures that at least two years will elapse before the application of a new resident will be considered. The rule helps to prevent "queue jumping" and avoids inflation of the waiting list with names of applicants who are really temporary residents at furnished accommodation during the winter months when holiday flats are vacant.

## Annual Review of Housing Applications (New)

In July there was another periodical review of the applications of those who had been waiting for at least two years.

Reports upon the living conditions and other circumstances of 199 applicants were presented. These reports were prepared after each applicant had been visited, and his living accommodation inspected. All the applications were given careful consideration by members of the Public Health and Housing Committee, each of whom had been supplied with a stencilled copy of the reports some time prior to the meeting.

Twenty five applicants (mostly elderly) were selected for the tenancies of flats, and twenty five young applicants with children were selected for the tenancies of houses.

### HOUSING OF APPLICANTS AND TRANSFER OF TENANTS (Revised)

During the year a total of 55 houses, prefabs, and flats have been let to new tenants in the following categories:-

Applicants selected from the general housing register	35
Applicants <b>evicted</b> by Court Order	8
Tenants rehoused from unfit houses	7
Council staff	1
Keyworkers	4

32 of the applicants were accommodated at houses and flats given up by their previous tenants. The remainder were housed at newly constructed flats, or at houses released by transfer of their tenants to flats.

36 tenants were transferred to accommodation more suitable to the needs of their growing or diminishing families or for other reasons. 21 under-occupied houses were released in this way for larger families. Four 2 bedroom flats were released for couples by transfer of tenants to single bedroom flats. 7 exchanges of tenancy were permitted. Four of these were local exchanges, and the other three were exchanges with tenants of Council houses in other towns.

### HOUSES GIVEN UP BY TENANTS (Revised)

It will be noted under a previous paragraph that 32 tenancies were given up during 1963. This is 12 more than the number given up the previous year.

The total number includes 16 flats which became vacant upon the death of tenants.

As the total "stock" of Council houses and flats increases we might expect the number of vacancies to increase especially from old people's flats.





Those in advanced old age require accommodation where they can retain independence, but not live in isolation.

An attempt to satisfy such a need was the acquisition of 139 Canterbury Road, a large house which was converted into six 2 room flats. Each flat has a bed-sitting room and a kitchen/dining room. There is a bathroom and W.C. shared by three persons, on each floor. Experience has shown that baths are not much used by many elderly tenants.

139 Canterbury Road was acquired and converted for the sum of £4,208, which averaged approximately £700 per unit of accommodation provided.

Hall, staircase, landing and bathroom, have been provided with floor covering and are cleansed regularly each week by the Council. Windows are cleansed, and the garden is maintained by the Council. These services are reflected in the rents which range from 16/8d. to £1. 5. 3. per week including general district rate and water rate.

The Council has a good record of providing accommodation for the aged. There is now one flat for every three houses. The building quota for 8 years has been devoted almost entirely to the construction of flats. 190 flats have been constructed in post-war building programmes and more will be provided.

#### Flats with Resident Warden

I have long stressed the need for yet another type of accommodation for the elderly viz. flats with furnished communal sitting room and a resident warden. This enables those in advanced old age to retain their independence longer than would otherwise be possible. It is better for them, and it is cheaper for the nation.

During 1963, serious consideration was given to the need for this kind of accommodation. Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee visited many towns to inspect warden type accommodation which has been provided. It is hoped that this will result in the provision of similar accommodation at Herne Bay where the need is greater than at most towns because of the high ratio of elderly residents.

RENTS AND HOUSING SUBSIDIES  
(Repeated)

The rents of Council houses at Herne Bay are not subsidised by direct subsidy from the local rates. A local rates subsidy was withdrawn early in 1956. The Government subsidy, which has been available for slum clearance and for construction of single bedroom flats for general purpose, is now calculated upon a new basis under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1961.

Subsidies are pooled to arrive at a uniform basis of rent calculation for each house.

This pooling device enables new houses and flats to be let at rents considerably lower than the economic figure having regard to the high cost of building, high cost of land, and the prevailing high interest rates.

As from April 1963, rents, including rates and water charges, were charged as follows:-

4 bedroom houses	- From £2.11. 6. to £2.13. 1.
3 bedroom houses	- From £1. 9. 6. to £2. 8. 4.
2 bedroom houses	- From £1.14. 9. to £2. 0. 3.
Prefabricated bungalows	- £1. 8. 9.
Flats (2 bedrooms)	- From £1.12. 3. to £1.13. 2.
Flats (Single bedroom)	- £1. 7. 6.
Canterbury Road flats	- From 16/8d. to £1. 5. 3.

A report upon rent revision was submitted by the Council's Treasurer and Accountant in November, 1961, which included a comprehensive history of Council house rents, and the way in which they have been determined since 1936.

The Treasurer and Accountant completed his review with an explanation of the new system of calculating subsidies introduced by the Housing Act, 1961.

It was decided in 1962 to extend to pre-war houses a method of calculating rents by reference to the gross value of the house. In this way the net rent is fixed at twice the gross value. This method has been applied previously to post-war houses only at Herne Bay.

The application of this system of rent calculation to pre-war houses resulted in a substantial increase of rents of those houses. The increased rents are, however, reasonable for the accommodation offered, and are much below the rents of comparable houses privately owned. The system of calculating rents by reference to the gross value is fair because it reflects the amenities and other conditions which measure the gross value of a house.



UNDEROCCUPATION AT COUNCIL HOUSES  
(Revised)

In August, 1962, there was a census at Council houses with the object of ascertaining the extent of underoccupation, and of overcrowding. It was found that 54 three bedroom houses were underoccupied with only two persons per house. One four bedroom house was underoccupied with two persons. 9 prefabs having two bedrooms, and one two bedroom house were underoccupied with only one person per dwelling.

The extent of underoccupation is very similar to that which was revealed in 1959 when information was collected concerning the occupation of Council properties. Most of the underoccupation revealed in 1959 has been dealt with by transfer of tenants to smaller accommodation.

The new information obtained in 1962 shows that under-occupation is a continuing process as families grow up and leave home. This is a source which may be expected to supply a continuous flow of houses which can be released for families when smaller accommodation can be offered. In one instance only has it been necessary to put pressure upon a tenant to move to smaller accommodation. Some tenants are eager to move to new flats, others can be persuaded with a little patience.

The Council meets the reasonable removal expenses of tenants who give up large Council houses, and move to smaller accommodation at the Council's request. This is a considerable help in securing the movement which is desired.

When the matter was first considered in 1959 the Council adopted the following policy upon the recommendation of the Public Health and Housing Committee:-

- (a) That it is considered to be the duty of the Council to ensure that none of the houses or flats under its control are seriously underoccupied;
- (b) that tenants of underoccupied premises be encouraged to transfer to smaller accommodation when such accommodation is available;
- (c) that when such transfers take place the Council pay the reasonable cost of removal;
- (d) that the compulsory transfer of tenants to smaller accommodation will be required if necessary; it is hoped that this distasteful course will be avoided by voluntary agreement.

During 1963, 21 tenants voluntarily transferred from underoccupied houses to small flats.



OVERCROWDING AT COUNCIL HOUSES  
(Repeated except for last paragraph)

The census also revealed some overcrowding at Council houses. To maintain reasonable housing standards a three bedroom house is not suitable for a family of more than 5 persons. If the children are very small a family unit with a maximum of 6 persons might be tolerated until the children reach an age when sex segregation becomes necessary. A two bedroom house is not suitable for more than 4 persons - only 3 persons if children are of different sexes and are above 10 years of age.

To relieve the more serious overcrowding the best use has to be made of 4 bedroom houses. There are only 18 of these houses so opportunities of rehousing large families are limited.

Some more 4 bedroom houses would be useful.

During the year under review overcrowding was relieved by transferring two Council tenants with large families to 4 bedroom houses.

Recreation Facilities at Council Housing Estates (New)

There is a serious lack of recreation facilities at Greenhill. Playing fields are required to enable children to play organised games.

The need has become even more acute with the building development of vacant land upon which they used to be able to play. During the summer months frequent complaints are received from tenants who are annoyed by children's ball games etc. There is also the aspect of danger to children who play upon the streets.

Although the need is not so acute as at Greenhill, there is also need for a playing field at Beltinge.

Improvements and installations by tenants (New)

Applications of this nature are now dealt with by the Housing Manager.

During the year, many of the Council's tenants have been given permission to carry out improvements to their houses at their own expense.

There is a condition that damage must be made good, or that the fitting, or other improvement, must remain at the termination of the tenancy. In this way, water heaters, sink units, modern fire places, etc. have been installed by tenants at no expense to the Council.

One tenant was given consent to install an electric whole heating system at his expense.

#### Additional Tenancy Conditions (New)

There has been damage to Marley tile floors by tenants who have quite unnecessarily laid lino on tiled floors. There has also been damage to plaster by tenants removing curtain rail brackets plugged into walls above window openings.

New tenants of existing houses and flats are now told that they must fit battens to support curtain rails if they want to hang curtains over window openings, instead of hanging them between the window jambs upon brackets attached to the metal frames. At new houses and flats battens above window openings will be provided by the Council when the dwellings are constructed.

#### Sub-letting at Council houses (Revised)

The Council makes a charge of 5s. Od. a week for permitted sub-letting at Council houses, and 2s. 6d. per week in respect of lodgers, where permitted. Permission is not given if overcrowding would result.

No charge is made in respect of aged parents living with sons and daughters with no income other than a pension from the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance.

At the end of 1963, payments were being made in respect of 4 lodgers and 6 sub-tenants for which consent had been given.

#### GARAGES AND CAR PARKING AT COUNCIL HOUSES (Completely Revised)

The parking of cars is a growing problem which can be met at Council housing estates only by making suitable provisions by way of hard standings and garages.

Roads upon housing estates are often packed with cars at night, increasing the difficulties of doctors, ambulances, and fire service vehicles should these be needed. Where there is "open front" development cars are often parked upon front lawns and forecourts with consequent damage to lawns and to the general amenities of the neighbourhood.

It is now a planning requirement that sufficient space is allowed for car parking at new dwellings. At the Council's new flats car parks have been provided with concrete surfaces. These are marked out, numbered, and let to tenants at a rent of 1/6d. per week.

A set of conditions has been approved to apply when permission is given to a tenant to erect a garage at his own expense.

The most satisfactory solution, however, is the provision by the Council of garages which are let to tenants at rents which will cover loan repayments and rates. This at present amounts to 10/- per week rent, and 1/9d. per week rates.

It is sometimes possible to build garages at individual houses and this is now favoured especially at houses where garages could be let separately without intrusion upon the privacy of any future tenant not requiring a garage.

Where individual garages are not possible lock-up garages are the answer for those who can afford the rent, and hard standings for those who require something cheaper. A hard standing at 1/6d. per week is good value. It keeps cars off the roads, and off front lawns at night. It assures a place for the car of each tenant who has rented a numbered parking space.

The building of garages by the Council is likely to result in a better overall appearance of a housing estate than could result from an assortment of tenants' garages of different materials, types and designs.

By the end of 1963, individual garages had been provided by the Council at 4 houses and lock-up garages had been approved upon sites at Claremont Street, Fitzgerald Avenue, and Sussex Close. Hard standings had been approved at School Lane and Sussex Close.

## POULTRY KEEPING AT COUNCIL HOUSES (Revised)

Regulations continue in force for the control of poultry keeping by Council tenants. Cockerels are prohibited and not more than 6 hens can be kept at a Council house. Hen houses must be constructed according to a standard design.

The regulations, and standard hen houses are intended to ensure that poultry is not kept so as to become an unsightly nuisance. This can so easily happen when poultry keeping is unrestricted.

## COUNCIL HOUSE GARDENS COMPETITION (Repeated)

This is a useful method of encouraging tenants to cultivate attractive gardens. At the same time it has given opportunity for members of the Public Health and Housing Committee to become acquainted with the Council's housing estates. Inspection of the gardens and judging is done by members themselves who decide upon the gardens worthy of prizes. The first prize is a Silver Challenge Cup held for one year by the tenant having the best front and back garden. The holder also receives a cheque for three guineas. There are second and third prizes in that class and a further three prizes, first, second and third, for houses with back gardens only.

It was decided to restrict the competition in 1963 to those tenants who enter their gardens for judging in the competition. This would have the effect of reducing the number of inspections by members.

### Neglected Gardens (Repeated)

Neglected gardens are dealt with after a routine inspection in early summer. Occasionally it is necessary to cut down weeds, etc., in default of a tenant who has to meet the cost.

Where there are no front boundary walls, the grass forecourts are maintained by the Council.



London County Council - Housing at Herne Bay (New)

The London County Council has purchased 14 bungalows at Herne for the purpose of renting them to tenants of L.C.C. underoccupied houses urgently required for families in the London area.

The Herne Bay Urban District Council was asked to approve this arrangement, and to agree to manage the bungalows for the L.C.C. in such matters as rent collection, repairs, etc. This was agreed at an annual fee per dwelling for the services rendered.

14 tenants have since been installed and have settled down quite happily.

OTHER SERVICES ETC. ADMINISTERED BY  
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES  
(Revised)

The Council's 13 public conveniences for men and women are under the control of the Health Department. These conveniences have approximately a million users a year.

Four public conveniences are closed during the winter months including those at the Pier Head.

Since the end of the war, two new public conveniences have been constructed and others have been improved.

The Council has been prevented for several years from building public conveniences at Beltinge, because of objections to the siting of the proposed conveniences. Early in 1958, a local enquiry was held at Beltinge to consider objections to the Council's proposal to construct a public convenience upon land at the junction of Reculver Road and Terminus Drive. These objections were upheld by the Minister.

In 1961 another site was selected at Reculver Road, Beltinge, and there appears to be no local objection to the use of this land for the erection of public conveniences.

Turnstiles at Public Conveniences (Revised)

In August 1961, Circular 40/61 was received from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government requesting local authorities to refrain from installing any more turnstiles at public conveniences. The Circular intimated that loan ~~sanction~~ would be refused for any public convenience scheme which includes a turnstile.

Local authorities were later asked in Circular 53/61 to remove turnstiles from existing conveniences. This has been followed by a positive direction to do so. The Public Lavatories (Turnstiles) Act 1963, received the Royal Assent on 31st July, 1963. The Act requires removal of all turnstiles from public lavatories within 6 months.

At Herne Bay turnstiles were installed soon after the end of the last war. Four were placed at conveniences for women and two at conveniences for men. Takings at conveniences increased 100% after the installation of turnstiles. When they are taken out we may expect a corresponding drop in receipts.

It has been decided to leave one free W.C. at each of the conveniences where turnstiles are removed. Use of water closets is now free at the Memorial Park, and at Herne, where the amount collected was less than the cost of collection and repairs of damage to coin locks.

#### Washing Facilities (Revised)

At most of the Council's public conveniences washing facilities are now available. Where wash basins have been installed paper towel machines have been provided. This arrangement applies also at conveniences where there are whole time attendants. It is a facility which is offered as an alternative to linen towels if required. In effect, at these conveniences there are two kinds of washing facilities, namely, a 6d. wash with linen towel, and a 3d. wash with paper towel. This has proved popular and meets the needs of those who merely wish to wash their hands. Records show that women prefer paper towels, whereas the men seem to prefer linen towels when available.

It is becoming generally recognised that free washing facilities should be available at all public conveniences.

There are slipper baths at two conveniences, one for men and the other for women. These baths are used on an average of 400 times each year.

#### Staffing (Repeated)

There are now more cleaners and less attendants. Full staffing with attendants is arranged only in the summer season. Even during the summer, smaller conveniences are now maintained by visiting cleaners to save upon the expense of employing whole time attendants. During the winter all conveniences which remain open are maintained by visiting cleaners. In this way the wages bill for cleaners and attendants has been kept to a minimum.

#### Retirement of lady supervisor

Mrs. R. Stroud retired as part-time supervisor of public conveniences for women. She had held that position since 1939. No further appointment was made to replace Mrs. Stroud.

### Weighing Machines (Revised)

There are 11 weighing machines at the Council's public conveniences. 8 of these were installed in 1958 and the remainder in succeeding years.

The 11 machines cost £552 to install, and by the end of the financial year 1963-64 the total receipts amounted to £1,855. This shows a substantial profit after deduction of the cost of the machines which will continue to earn revenue for many years before they will need to be replaced. It has been decided to set aside a percentage of the profits each year to build up a fund for replacement of weighing machines when this becomes necessary. Prior to the purchase of weighing machines by the Council £7 per annum was received for the concession to place privately owned machines at the Council's conveniences.

### Receipts from Public Conveniences

Conveniences cannot be self supporting and any receipts should be regarded as a contribution towards their cost and maintenance. The revenue from weighing machines, etc. helps to increase that contribution.

### Conveniences at Licensed Premises (Repeated)

The Council has an arrangement by which external urinals and water closets at five licensed premises are allowed to remain open beyond licensing hours for use by the general public. The daily lighting and cleansing of these conveniences is undertaken by the Council.

### PET ANIMALS ACT (Revised)

This Act came into operation upon the 1st April, 1952. It prohibits the keeping of a pet shop, except under the authority of a licence granted by the Council.

In deciding whether to grant a licence, the Council must have regard to the need for securing that there will be provided:-



- (a) Accommodation suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting and ventilation.
- (b) adequate supply of suitable food and drink;
- (c) that all reasonable precautions will be taken in case of fire and other emergency, and that animals will not be sold at too early an age.

Licences designed to secure compliance with the above and other conditions, are granted annually by the Council permitting the keeping of pet animal shops at three premises in the Urban District. One application for a licence was refused in 1963.

### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963 (New)

This Act has effect on 1st January, 1964. It provides for the licensing of boarding establishments for animals. Licences are valid for one year and a fee of 10/- is payable for each licence granted.

Section 3 of the Act provides:-

In determining whether to grant a licence for the keeping of a boarding establishment for animals a local authority shall have regard to the need for securing:-

- (a) That the accommodation is suitable;
- (b) that animals will be adequately fed, supplied with drink, exercised, and visited;
- (c) that precautions will be taken to prevent spread of diseases and against fire or other emergencies;
- (d) that a register of animals shall be kept.

The Local Authority is empowered to specify such conditions in the licence as may appear to be necessary for securing the above objects which are clearly intended for the protection and well being of animals at boarding establishments.

3 applications for licences were granted.

PETROLEUM  
(Revised - as to number only)

There are 38 Petroleum Spirit stores at Herne Bay, which have to be licensed annually under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928. Fees amounting to £33. 0. 0. were received in December for the renewal of annual licences. Two new petroleum spirit stores were licensed in 1963.

The Public Health Inspector is responsible, as Petroleum Officer, for supervising new petroleum storage installations including the testing of tanks. He is also responsible for ensuring compliance with annual licensing conditions.

Important new Regulations came into operation on 1st July, 1957. These are intended to ensure that all possible safety precautions are taken at petroleum spirit stores when delivery is made from a tank wagon to a storage tank upon the premises.

A model code has been prepared for the guidance of local authorities, in the licensing of petroleum spirit stores. Its preparation followed a recommendation made in a report upon a serious explosion at Bristol.

It is suggested in the Model Code that Licensing Authorities should require underground tanks to be tested after they have been installed 20 years, and at regular intervals thereafter. This recommendation is carried out. My records indicate the age of most tanks.

Most garages and filling stations now have electric pumps, flame proofed, as required in the Regulations, and equipped with limiting devices.

OIL HEATERS REGULATIONS 1962  
(Repeated)

In September, 1962, upon the request of the Law and Finance Committee it was decided by the Public Health and Housing Committee to accept responsibility for the administration of these new Regulations.

The Regulations require every oil heater to bear a warning. Shops where oil heaters are exposed for sale have to be visited from time to time to examine heaters to ensure that they bear the following prescribed warnings:-

- (a) Against using petrol as fuel therein.
- (b) Against carrying the heater when alight.
- (c) Against using the heater in unventilated places.
- (d) Against using the heater where it may be exposed  
to draughts.
- (e) Against placing the heater where it may be knocked  
over.

The warnings have to be set out in legible and durable characters and displayed either upon the heater itself or upon a durable label stoutly affixed to it.

Other requirements of the Regulations have to do with standard of performance, fuel temperature, stability, prevention of spillage, flame flashback, fire risk, draught resistance, etc.





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